Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3501

UNCLAS JIDDA 0654

COMMERCE FOR DON STOWE/OIM

E., SA

SUBJECT: SAWARY TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO.; OFFICIAL TO VISIT U.S. FOR JOINT VENTURE, PURCHASE OF U.S. GOODS AND SEEK CONSULTANT

MR. MAHMOUD (AKA MIKE) LAHHAM, A REPRESENTATIVE OF SUBJECT FIRM, P.O. BOX 3420, JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA, CABLE AFAF, TELEX: 40095, TELEPHONE: 21549, WILL VISIT THE UNITED STATES IN MARCH 1976. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO RECRUIT SHING WHAT WILL PURPORTEDLY BE THE LARGE U.S. SUPERMARKET AND SHOPPING CENTER DESIGN CONSULTANTS,

FIRMS INTERESTED IN JOINT BULK PURCHASE FRANCHISES IN FOOD LINES AND POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES.

2. THE FIRM IS BUILDING A 1000 UNIT HOUSING COMPLEX, SULAIMANIEH, IN JIDDA AND FUAD LAHHAM, MR. LAHHAM'S BROTHER, HAD A MOST SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES LAST OCT. MR. LAHHAM WILL VISIT MINNEAPOLIS, CHICAGO, SAN FRANCISCO, LAFAYETTE (INDIANA), HOUSTON, AND NEW YORK. INTERESTED U.S. FIRMS ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE SAWARY CO. AND SEND CATALOGS, BORCHURES AND PROPOSALS BEFORE LAHHAM'S DEPARTURE SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET CAN BE MADE DURING THE VISIT.

3. COMMERCE IS REQUESTED TO ALERT APPROPRIATE FIELD OFFICES FOR ASSISTANCE. MR. LAHHAM WROTE A MONTH AGO TO UNCLASSIFIED

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THE U.S. SUPERMARKET INSTITUTE IN CHICAGO BUT HAS HAD

NO REPLY.

4. THE SAWARY FIRM IS A DIVISION OF THE AHMAD ABDULLAH SULAIMAN & CO. FIRM, ONE OF THE MOST AFFLUENT AND ACTIVE IN SAUDI ARABIA. THE PROJECTS CONTEMPLATED ABOVE ARE IN THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR RANGE. PORTER

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